

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 3, and ending at line 17, on page 12, with the following, amended paragraph:

In accordance with a particular embodiment of the present invention, the rules engine 240, in addition to being able to render health status for single providers (or factors contributing to a health status of a single provider), applies information outside the information provided by a first provider service to render (or tune) a personal computer health score and any instructions/suggestions for corrective action for the first provider. In particular, the rules engine 340 applies status information provided by at least a second provider as well as the first provider to render the instruction for corrective action. By way of example, a firewall provider and an anti-virus provider operate independently of one another. However, in the event of failure, the rules engine 240 takes into account the health status information provided by both providers when rendering instructions for corrective actions to each. Furthermore, in an embodiment of the invention, the rules engine 240 formulates a health status score/suggested corrective action based upon usage/configuration information (e.g., standalone, networked, etc.). For example, if a computer is operating in a standalone configuration, then firewall status is not relevant to an overall safety score for the system.